## 00566

1981/06/06

- -- STRENGTHENING PAKISTAN IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IN SOUTH ASIA BECAUSE OF PAKISTAN'S VITAL ROLE IN BLOCKING SOVIET EXPANSIONISM IN THE REGION.
- -- WE HAVE ENTERED INTO A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN, A STEP WHICH WAS CONFIRMED BY OUR OFFER AND PAKISTAN'S ACCEPTANCE OF \$100 MILLION IN ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUNDS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.
- -- UNDER SECRETARY BUCKLEY HELD TALKS IN ISLAMABAD

  JUNE 11-14 TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING ON THE COMPOSITION OF

  A FIVE YEAR PROGRAM OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

  WHICH COULD TOTAL ABOUT \$3 BILLION.
- -- THE GOAL OF A STRONG, MORE SELF-CONFIDENT PAKISTAN
  IS SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY OUR PROGRAM OF SUPPORT, THOUGH WE
  ALSO BELIEVE THAT, OVER TIME, GREATER SECURITY COOPERATION
  WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO DETERRENCE. THIS MUST, OF COURSE, BE
  ACCEPTABLE TO PAKISTAN.

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RDS- 1-3, 6/6/01

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## CONFIDENTIAL -2-

- WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT THE SOVIETS MAY INCREASE THEIR PRESSURE ON PAKISTAN IN THE COMING MONTHS. WE WILL BE CONSULTING WITH THE PAKISTANIS AND OTHERS ON HOW TO COUNTER SOVIET PRESSURE AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS.
- -- A PAKISTANI NUCLEAR TEST WOULD THREATEN OUR NEW RELATIONSHIP AS WELL AS REGIONAL SECURITY. THE PAKISTANIS KNOW OUR VIEWS. IT WOULD HELP IF CHINA WOULD UNDERSCORE ITS OWN CONCERNS